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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/057,705	01/24/2002	Liang He	42390P12176	9089

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EXAMINER

ABEBE, DANIEL DEMELASH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2655

DATE MAILED: 04/07/2004

9

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/057,705

Applicant(s)

HE ET AL.

Examiner

Daniel D Abebe

Art Unit

2655

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 October 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>5.8</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ladd et al. (6,269,336) and in view of Thrift et al. (6,188,985).

As to claim 1, Ladd teaches a voice browsing system (Fig.1, 100) comprising,

A client module (102)'

A "gateway module" (104); and

A document server (106); where the client module receives speech that is transmitted to the gateway module ; and where the gateway module (voice browser, Fig.3, 250) receives a markup document from markup language server (251) interpret the markup language (Fig.4, 250) generates grammar for the speech recognition (Fig.5c) and communicates with the client device (Fig.3, 204), through a voice response unit (232). Ladd, teaches where the speech inputs are transmitted from the client to the S.R. located at the server, he also teaches where the document is audibly presented to the client. But doesn't explicitly disclose the type of the speech input and interpreting the document for a display. However, client-server DSR systems are well known in the art. Thrift, for ex, teaches a system comprising a client module having a front-end processor and a display, where the client module captures and extracts speech feature and transmit them to a server for recognition (Col.3, lines 1-7 and lines 18-20) also

generating a displayable document by the client device is taught by Thrift (Col.7, lines 33-36). Therefore, while the invention in Ladd is disclosed in an embodiment where the client module sends (raw) speech information to the server, It would have been obvious for one skilled in the art to modify it, in view of Thrift, for the purpose of effectively utilizing the communication bandwidth by reducing the amount of speech information that will be transmitted to the server. The display is also obvious to be included in Ladd, for providing an alternative means to present documents to users.

As to claims 2-3, Thrift teaches where the client module (10) a microphone (10b), voice processor (10e), voice data transmitter (packetized data) and a hypermedia web page displayer (interpreter 10a).

As to claim 4, Official Notice is taken that feature extractors that perform MFCC and vector quantization are well known in the art of speech processing/recognition and would be obvious in the client module of Thrift, for obtaining the features.

As to claim 5, processing a request, receiving data and transmitting speech feature data are taught by Thrift.

As to claim 6, Thrift teaches a display operable to generate web page images ...from hyper-terminal media, inherently suggesting interpreter (Col.7, lines 33-35).

As to claims 7-11, see Figs. 3-4, in Ladd's art.

As to claims 12-14, see Fig.3, # 234, Fig.5c and synchronization between the client device and the server in Ladd and Thrifty art is inherent.

Claims 15-18 are analogous to the claims addressed above and are rejected for the foregoing reasons by Ladd in view of Thrift.

Conclusion

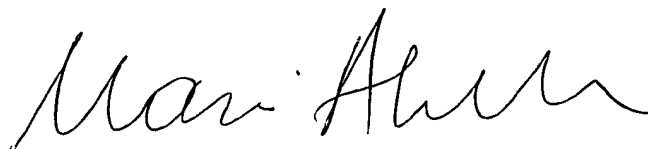
The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Albayrak (6,662,163) teaches a client device having a voice browser for accessing document from servers and interprets web pages.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel D Abebe whose telephone number is 703-308-5543. The examiner can normally be reached on monday-friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on 703-305-4827. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

DANIEL ABEBE
PRIMARY EXAMINER



March 29, 2004